In re Appln. of Lucas et a Application No. 10/085,890

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraphs beginning at page 2, line 1 and ending at page 1, line 14, with rewritten paragraphs:

-- One prior art patent, U.S. Patent No. 6,254,947 B1, includes the preparation of polyisoprene gloves and condoms using standard compounding admixtures such as sulfur, zinc oxide, organic accelerators, stabilizers, waxes, anti-aging substances, viscosity regulators, fillers, and pigments. However, the process disclosed in the patent is primarily focused at creating a coating on the elastomeric article, which has surface deviations such that the deviations impart slip between the user and the elastomeric article.

Another prior art patent, U.S. Patent No. 6,221,447 B1, describes the preparation of hypoallergenic rubber products which shrink from a second shape and size to their original shape and size on application of heat. The examples include a polyisoprene condom which will shrink to fit the individual user during use. The curing package used to make this condom was known in the art and consisted of agents such as peroxides and/or sulfur.

Another prior art polyisoprene article, disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 4,695,609, used a combination of sulfur, zinc oxide and dithiocarbamate as a curing package. However, the latex showed poor shelf-stability, typically coagulating within a few days of compounding.

